



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development

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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES FUNDING FOR MINERVA WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION

ROCKDALE, TEXAS, October 4, 2005 – Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development State Director, announced today that Minerva Water Supply Corporation has been awarded \$240,000 through the agency's Water and Waste Disposal Loan Program. The funds will be used to update and improve the current water supply system, which has been serving the area since 1963.

"Minerva Water Supply Corporation has nearly three times more customers than they did when constructed in 1963," said Daniel. "It is time to update, improve, and expand this system so that the 95 households that it serves have a chance to experience efficient water supply and service."

USDA Rural Development's Community Programs provide funding for construction, improvement, or expansion of water and waste disposal systems, telecommunication and education resources, and necessary community facilities.

USDA Rural Development's Water and Wastewater Program is designed to bring fresh, clean, drinking water and sanitary, environmentally sound sewage facilities to rural America's 53 million residents. Loans and grants are available to rural communities with fewer than 10,000 residents. Public bodies, corporations operating on a non-profit basis, and Indian tribes that are unable to obtain credit from other sources at reasonable rates and terms are eligible for assistance.

USDA Rural Development strives to see that rural citizens can participate fully in the global economy by providing technical assistance, funding, and other programs that help rural Americans build strong economies to improve their quality of life. For further information regarding USDA Rural Development programs, contact the Georgetown office at (512) 863-6502 Ext. 4, or visit our website at <http://rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.

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